

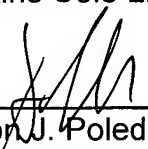
REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are presently pending in the application. Claim 26 has been amended to clarify certain aspects of this claim. Claims 68 and 69 have been cancelled. In the Office Action mailed December 15, 2005, claims 1-38, 68, and 69 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. More specifically, the Office Action asserted that the originally-filed specification does not include any discussion of applying tape over the uncured protective material during the curing process and, therefore, there is not support in the specification for claims (e.g., claims 26, 68, and 69) that recite curing of a protective material "without depositing a layer of tape over the protective material."

The undersigned attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for engaging in a telephone conference on March 9, 2006 to discuss the present Office Action and the pending claims. During the telephone conference, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the Section 112, first paragraph rejections if claim 26 was amended to clarify that tape is not necessary during the curing process and claims 68 and 69 were cancelled. The claims have been so amended and, accordingly, the Section 112 rejection should be withdrawn. In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and a mailing of a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-3982.

Respectfully submitted,

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